

Syringe Feeding and Medication Administration Guidelines

How to prepare the food

- Mix powered food with water according to directions on the bag.
 - The food should be pancake batter consistency
- Your veterinarian will provide you with the amount and frequency of feeding based on your patient's needs.
- Refrigerate any unused food solution, then discard after 24 hours.
- Unopened bags of product are shelf stable for 2 years. Once open store product in sealed bag in the refrigerator for up to 30 days.

How to restrain your bird for hand feeding or medication administration

1. Gently and slowly place a towel over your bird
 - Neutral colored towels work best
2. Bring your hand around the back side of the head and firmly grasp your bird around the jaw to prevent head shaking
 - Maintain a "collar" of towel between your fingers and the bird's beak
3. Hold your bird against your body and keep them upright. Keep the wings tucked in against the bird's body with the towel to prevent flapping and injury
4. Gently and firmly extend the neck

Some pets will willingly accept a syringe, while some pets require more restraint

How to feed or medicate your pet

- Pull up the food solution or medication into a syringe (your veterinarian will provide you with syringes)
- Introduce the syringe gently into the corner of the beak
- Administer a small amount of food or medication at a time, ensuring that your pet swallows before giving more
 - Giving too much liquid too fast may result in aspiration or choking
- If syringe feeding, continue to offer your pet's normal diet in addition to hand feeding unless otherwise directed

Additional tips and tricks

- Have all your supplies prepared and medication/food pulled up in the syringes before handling your bird
- Feed pet in an unfamiliar room
- Try different size syringes
- Be calm and patient
- Monitor your bird closely

Appropriate towel restraint:

